How it works
Here’s the beauty of the system. We show you how to position the fence so it’s very close to perfect. But if it’s a little off, the jig is self-correcting. That’s because you cut one miter on one side of the jig and its matching miter on the other side. So if your jig cuts at 46 degrees on the first side, it’ll cut at 44 degrees on the other. Even though one of the miters will be a little longer than the other, it’s easy to sand off the excess so the difference will be imperceptible. But try to build the jig as accurately as you can. This self-correcting business only goes so far!

Picture-perfect picture frames
I credit myself with being a fairly accomplished woodworker. But picture frames always drove me nuts! I found that they required more fuss and more precision than any other miter work I ever had to do. I tried miter saws and table saws, even using expensive aftermarket miter gauges. Nothing seemed to work without my messing with shims, recuts, etc. Then I built this miter sled. The frame I’m holding here took me all of 15 minutes to cut and assemble, and it’s the first time I’ve built a frame without recutting a single miter.

SAFETY TIP
Try to use your fence whenever you can. We left ours off, mostly for photo clarity. If you simply can’t use your fence, the next best thing is to take advantage of the 1-1/2-in.-thick fence by keeping the blade below the top. That way it’s impossible to catch your fingers on an exposed blade.